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FAITHWEAVER FRIENDS®!**

FAITHWEAVER
Weaving faith into today's families **NOW®**

SAMPLE LESSON

Create a foundation of faith
that lasts a lifetime.

AGE LEVEL:
Senior High

- ✓ OVERVIEW OF FAITHWEAVER NOW
- ✓ HOW FAITHWEAVER NOW WORKS
- ✓ SAMPLE LESSON
- ✓ HOW TO GET STARTED

HOPE NOW

FaithWeaver NOW weaves 3 fundamental ministry elements together to create a lasting impact for kids, families, and your church:

- ▶ Explore the entire Bible every 3 years
- ▶ Engage kids through proven, Jesus-style teaching methods
- ▶ Empower family conversation by synchronizing all age levels

FAITHWEAVER
Weaving faith into today's families **NOW**®

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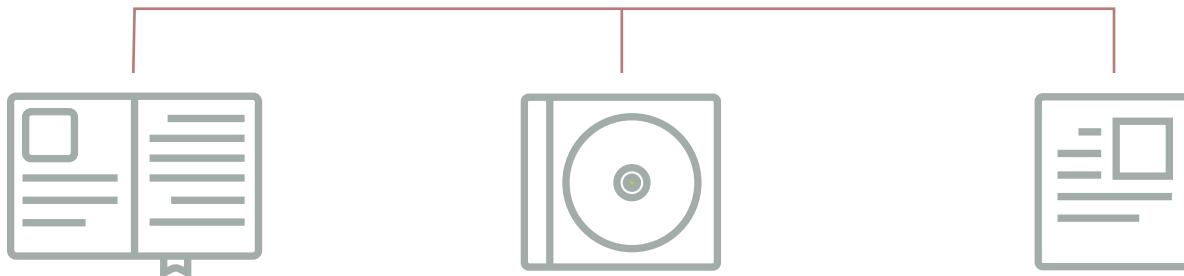
Tested and approved by thousands of churches and families

10 age levels (Infants-Adult) so the entire family can study the same Bible passage at the same time.



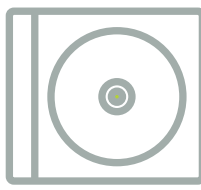
Teacher Packs

Age-appropriate Teacher Packs include:



Teacher Guide

Age-level insights and Bible backgrounds help leaders make a clear Jesus connection for kids.



Audio CD

Fun music, cool sound effects, dramatic Bible skits, and more!



FamilyConnect®

Take-home pages give parents an easy discussion starter.

Plus:



Student Books

Colorful student books for Infants-Middle School and handbooks for Sr. High-Adult include engaging take-home activities each week.



Digital Copies

PDFs of Director Manual, Teacher Guides, and FamilyConnect® with customizable Teacher Guide. Quick electronic access to lesson content for teachers and substitutes.



Teacher Guides include access to EDITABLE MS WORD Files



Study 1 5

David Becomes King

2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37

One of the most exciting things about becoming a teenager is the increasing independence that comes with this age. Teenagers love to stretch their wings and fly! "I can do it myself! I have it all figured out!" they often think. In sharp contrast to all of this independence is the idea that human beings need to rely on God, not on themselves. It's often difficult for teenagers to find the right balance between establishing their independence...and living in total dependence on God. Use this opportunity to help your teenagers understand that relying on God will help them to accomplish much greater and more amazing things than they could achieve by relying only on themselves.

STUDY	WHAT STUDENTS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
1 Faith Connection	The Ultimate Thumbless Challenge <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Attempt to do simple tasks without using their thumbs.	roll of masking tape, pennies, paper, pens, at least 2 pairs of shoes with laces	
	Media Connection (Option) <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Listen to a song to springboard into a discussion on relying on God.	music player, song "40 Days" by Third Day	Download "40 Days," and cue your music player so you're ready to play it.
2 Bible Exploration	Why 2 Rely <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Explore the Bible passage together, and discover the many reasons to rely on God.	Bibles, 1 copy per student of the "Why 2 Rely" handout (at the end of this study), pens	



► **Bible Point**
We can rely on God.

Key Verse
"God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble" (Psalm 46:1).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Students will trust God to protect and provide for them.

ONE-POINT LEARNING!
Using repetition, kids really learn the one God-focused Bible Point each week!

REAL-LIFE APPLICATION
in every lesson!



Senior High Study 1 Fall Quarter



6 FAITHWEAVER NOW

EASY PREP
5-10 minutes of prep
a week—sometimes
less!

THIS CHART
makes organizing
the lesson and
supplies easy!

STUDY	WHAT STUDENTS DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
3 Weaving Faith Into Life	Can't Live Without Him <i>(about 15 min.)</i> Discuss man-made objects and the important roles they play, then talk about the huge roles God plays in our lives.	sticky notes, pens or pencils	
	Commitment Collage <i>(about 10 min.)</i> Explore the Key Verse in pairs, evaluate their own patterns of relying on God, and consider ways they can be more reliant on him.	Bibles, sticky notes from "Can't Live Without Him" activity, pens or pencils	
4 Lasting Impressions	Daily Challenges <i>(about 5 min.)</i> Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.	1 copy per student of the "Taking It Home" handout (at the end of this study)	
	Weaving Faith at Home <i>(about 2 min.)</i> Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.		

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FAITHWEAVER
Now

**EASY-TO-READ
LAYOUT**

makes leading
lessons simple!



1 FAITH
CONNECTION

The Ultimate Thumbless Challenge

**The Ultimate
Thumbless Challenge
Supplies**

- roll of masking tape
- pennies
- paper
- pens
- at least 2 pairs of shoes
with laces

SUPPLIES

the supply list is
included with each
activity for easy
reference.

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Begin the study by asking your students how many of them are up for an ultimate challenge.

Say: **All you have to do to successfully meet this challenge is pick a penny up from off the ground, sign your name, shake hands with a friend, and untie and tie someone's shoelaces. Does anybody think this will be too tough?**

Here's the catch: You have to do all of these things without using your thumbs!

Distribute strips of masking tape, and encourage students to help one another tape their thumbs snugly against the sides of their hands so their thumbs aren't usable. This may take a while, but students will laugh as they experience the difficulty of even this simple task.

Once everyone is "thumbless," toss some pennies on the floor, and make paper and pens available as students attempt to master each task without the use of their thumbs. If some students aren't wearing shoes with laces, set out the ones you brought for them to untie and retie.

Talk With Students ■■■■

After students have had ample time to "try their hands" at each activity, gather everyone and discuss the following questions:

Ask:

- **What was the hardest thing to do without your thumbs? Why was it so hard?**
- **What are some other everyday tasks that would be difficult to accomplish without thumbs?**
- **What are some similarities between relying on our thumbs and relying on God in our everyday lives?**
- **What are some examples of everyday things that, without even realizing it, we rely on God to do?**

Say: **It's hard to believe how much we rely on our thumbs! Even though we use them hundreds of times every day, we rarely give a thought to how important they are to us. In the same way, we need God's help whether we realize it or not. Today we'll learn how ► WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

Fall Quarter

Study 1

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Media Connection (Option)

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Instead of the "Ultimate Thumbless Challenge" activity, play the song "40 Days" by Third Day. As students listen, encourage them to think about some of the toughest times they personally have gone through.

Talk With Students ■■■■

Ask:

- Explain whether you agree or disagree with the song.
- What's one of the hardest things you've had to go through?
- Tell about someone you most often relied on during that tough time.
- What do you think is the most important thing to do when going through tough times? Explain.

Say: **When we go through really tough stretches of life, we often lean on our friends and family to pull us through. Today we're going to be focusing on why God is the most important one to help us through all situations and that ► WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

2

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Why 2 Rely

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **We're about to read about a really important event in David's life: his coronation as Israel's king. David had traveled a long and difficult road to reach this point. He'd been through some really trying times and difficult situations. Yet, through it all, David had relied on God.**

Ask students to look up 2 Samuel 5:1-5 in their Bibles, and ask a willing student to read the verses aloud.

Say: **God chose David to rule Israel because David had a heart for God; when times were tough, David turned to God for help. And the amazing thing is that even when times weren't tough, David still relied on God. God was a crucial part of David's everyday life. David's life can teach us two very important things: *how* to rely on God and *why* to rely on God. Let's take some time to learn, from David's own words, how and why he relied on God.**

Distribute pens and copies of the "Why 2 Rely" handout. Then invite half of the group to study Psalm 37 and discuss the "hows"—the many ways, according to the psalm, to rely



Media Connection Supplies

music player
song "40 Days" by
Third Day

Media Connection Easy Prep

Download "40 Days," and cue your music player so you're ready to play it.

Why 2 Rely Supplies

Bibles
1 copy per student of the "Why 2 Rely" handout (at the end of this study)
pens

LEARN BY DOING

Creative experiences take students deeper into the Bible.





on God. (Examples are “Trust in the Lord” and “Be still before the Lord and wait patiently for him.”)

Ask the other half of the group to dig into the “whys” in Psalm 37—the reasons, according to the psalm, to rely on God. (Examples are “He will make your righteousness shine” and “He will give you the desires of your heart.”) As the students dig in, have them take notes on their findings on their “Why 2 Rely” handouts.

After about five minutes, have groups each identify their top five answers. Then call all the students together to share their top hows and whys with one another.

Talk With Students ■■■■

Ask:

- What did you learn from David’s reliance on God that applies to your own life?
- Explain which “how” and “why” would be your personal number one answer.
- What’s an area of your life where it’s hardest to rely on God?

Say: David’s life wasn’t free from trouble. He had his share of down times—when he was afraid for his life, when he felt really depressed, when people thought he was a nobody. In each of those times, he relied on God for protection, comfort, and worth. David knew how to rely on God, and he knew why: the only thing he could count on was God. Now, let’s consider how we can follow David’s example and how ► **WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

3 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Can’t Live Without Him

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Ask students to share about adventurous things they’ve done, such as bungee jumping, hiking in a wilderness area, scuba diving, or other adventures. For each adventure, have students share what equipment they used and what the experience was like.

Say: **We rely on certain objects in extreme situations because our lives depend on them. For example, a bungee jumper *absolutely* relies on that bungee cord! A hiker in the wilderness *absolutely* relies on good shoes to keep from slipping off a cliff.**

Have students form teams of four to six, and give each team sticky notes and a pen or pencil. Ask teams to brainstorm a list of situations in which people absolutely rely on certain objects and then create a list of reasons for relying on those objects. Have students write each reason on a separate sticky note. Challenge students to think of as many situations and reasons as they can in three minutes. For example, students might

Can’t Live Without Him Supplies

.....
sticky notes
pens or pencils

LIFE APPLICATION
Engaging activities help students apply Bible truths to everyday life.





say, "The compass leads them in the right direction" or "The parachute protects them from getting hurt."

After three minutes, invite teams to share their ideas with the whole group. As each team shares, have its members attach their sticky notes to the wall. As students create the wall of sticky notes, pay attention to the words or phrases that could describe God's characteristics—"leads in the right direction" or "protects," for example.

Talk With Students ■■■■

Have students take a new look at what's written on the wall of sticky notes.

Ask:

- Which words or phrases on our wall of stickies apply to how we rely on God?
- Tell about a time you relied on God and he responded in one of the ways listed on the wall.
- Based on what we've read and talked about today, what's one way you need to rely on God more?

Say: Unfortunately, sometimes these objects let people down. Compasses can get broken, parachutes can fail, and even bungee cords can snap. But God will never let us down. David knew that well, because in all his hard times, God always protected him. Because God will never let us down, ► **WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

Commitment Collage

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have students form pairs and read Psalm 46:1 together: "God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble."

Ask partners to share what the verse means to them in light of what they've discussed today. Then say: **We've talked about many reasons to rely on God. Take just a moment to ask yourself this question: "Why would it be good for me to rely on God, and what's the best way I can actually rely on him in the next week?"**

When you've thought of a good answer, come look at our wall of sticky notes. Pick the one that's closest to the way you thought of relying on God. Take that sticky note down, and write your commitment on the back of the sticky note. Then stick it back to the wall and pray silently by the wall, talking to God about your commitment.

Allow plenty of time for students to reflect, write on their sticky notes, and pray.

Talk With Students ■■■■

Ask:

- If you're willing to share, what did you write on your sticky note and talk to God about?
- How did this prayer activity change the way you view relying on God?
- How has God shown you he's worthy of your reliance?



Commitment Collage Supplies

-
- Bibles
- sticky notes from "Can't Live Without Him" activity
- pens or pencils

GET STUDENTS THINKING

Rich discussion questions help students make discoveries and own their faith.





Say: God is more than worthy of our total dependence on him. When we rely on ourselves and our own abilities, we inevitably fail or get off track. David lived almost his entire life in true reliance on God, and that helped him succeed. This week, let's follow through on our commitments and remember that ► **WE CAN RELY ON GOD.**

4 LASTING IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Distribute "Taking It Home" handouts to all students. Say: **Let's think about how ► WE CAN RELY ON GOD more deeply every day!**

Direct students to find this week's Daily Challenges on their "Taking It Home" handouts and choose one to do this week. They can choose one or more of these three options:

- Search for other verses in your Bible that remind you that God is always in control, and that we can always rely on him no matter what we're going through. Write those verses down and keep them where you can look at them as you need them.
- Where do you take God for granted right now? Invite him into those areas of your life. You could pray before every test, practice, or important event, asking for God's help and wisdom.
- Who do you know who really needs to rely on God right now? Share with him or her what God has done in your own life, and show God's faithfulness by being there for that person.

Talk With Students ■■■■

Ask:

- What's a practical way you're going to do your Daily Challenge? Share a time, a place, or other ideas.

Say: **God alone can provide the true success, worth, protection, and blessings we are looking for. As we grow closer to him and rely on him alone, he makes our lives something very special. Let's rely on him by following through with our Daily Challenges this week.**

Fall Quarter

Study 1 ■■■■ Senior High

DAILY CHALLENGES

Daily Challenge options give students a faith that weaves into their lives.

Daily Challenges Supplies

1 copy per student of the "Taking It Home" handout (at the end of this study)





Weaving Faith at Home

Encourage students to talk with their parents about the Daily Challenges they chose and what they learned about relying on God. Students can also do the “Talk With Your Families” activity on their “Taking It Home” pages with their families.

Talk to your Director about e-mailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.

Invite students to take a few minutes to pray for each other. Then close by leading them in this one-sentence prayer based on Psalm 46:1: **God, you are our refuge and our strength, our ever-present help in trouble. In Jesus’ name, amen.**

WEAVING FAITH AT HOME

Each week, students are encouraged to talk about what they've learned.

Senior High

Study 1

Fall Quarter



2 Samuel 5:1-5; Psalm 37

► **Bible Point**—We can rely on God.

Key Verse—“God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble” (Psalm 46:1).

TAKING
IT HOME

Daily Challenges

- Search for other verses in your Bible that remind you that God is always in control, and that we can always rely on him no matter what we’re going through. Write those verses down and keep them where you can look at them as you need them.
- Where do you take God for granted right now? Invite him into those areas of your life. You could pray before every test, practice, or important event, asking for God’s help and wisdom.
- Who do you know who really needs to rely on God right now? Share with him or her what God has done in your own life, and show God’s faithfulness by being there for that person.

Faith Journal

What is the hardest thing about relying on God?

Talk With Your Family

As a family, go online to find pictures or information about concentration camps during the Holocaust. Look through them together in order to get a good idea of Corrie ten Boom’s living conditions as she wrote her letters. Then discuss these questions:

- What strikes you about Corrie’s attitude? What is so amazing about it?
- How do you think Corrie found the strength to maintain that attitude?

Read Psalm 46:1-3, 10-11 with your family, and discuss these questions:

- When in your life have the mountains seemed to be falling and the oceans roaring?
- How do you usually respond to really difficult situations?
- Why do you or don’t you believe that you can rely on God even in the most difficult moments of life?

Corrie’s letters from prison and concentration camp are amazing testaments to her faith. As a family, write your own faith letters recounting difficult times in your lives and how God saw you through them. Seal the family’s letters in an envelope, and keep them in a special place as a reminder that you can rely on God even in the most difficult times.

(To find out more about Corrie ten Boom and her family, read *The Hiding Place*.)

Quotables

“We did not know what was ahead of us, but I was certain of one thing—that Jesus would never leave us nor forsake us and that, for a child of God, no pit could be so deep that Jesus was not deeper still.”
(Corrie ten Boom, who hid Jews during the Holocaust and was sent to a concentration camp, in *Prison Letters*)

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Study 1

Fall Quarter



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